

South Texas Food Bank Hunger Ends Here

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement	3
Service Area	4
Who We Serve	5
2017-2018 Board Members	6
Programs: <i>Adopt A Family</i>	7
Programs: Commodity Supplemental Food Program	(CSFP) 8
Programs: <i>Kid's Café</i>	9
Programs: Kid's Café Continued	10
Programs: Backpack	11
Programs: TEFAP	13
Programs: <i>Pantries</i>	14
Programs: Produce Distribution	15
Programs: Mobile Food Pantry	16
Programs: Paws Hunger	17
Donations Programs: Food Rescue	18
Donations Programs: Ranchers for THe Hungry & H	unters for the
Hungry	19
Volunteers	
Program service reports: 2017-2018 FY Totals	21

MISSION STATEMENT

To alleviate hunger in South Texas by collecting and distributing food through partner agencies and programs while creating awareness and educating the community on the realities of hunger.

To fulfill this mission, the South Texas Food Bank will:

- Solicit adequate funding, services, and surplus/donated goods from donors;
- Judiciously warehouse and distribute goods through its Member Agencies;
- Create and administer programs that alleviate hunger in our service area;
- Promote public education on the nature of, and solutions to, the problems of domestic hunger;
- Develop strong partnerships with community leaders and organizations, both within and outside our service area;
- Foster relationships with Feeding America, Feeding Texas, Texas Department of Agriculture, and the United States Department of Agriculture and any other agency or individual with a similar mission.



SERVICE AREA

The South Texas Food Bank is a 501-C-3 nonprofit organization headquartered in Laredo, Texas (Webb County).

We service eight counties in South Texas: Val Verde, Kinney, Maverick, Dimmit, Webb, Zapata, Jim Hogg, and Starr. We are strategically situated about midway between these counties that stretch 300 miles—180 miles northwest and 120 miles southeast along the Rio Grande River.



14,023 TOTAL SQ.
MILES SERVED!

WHO WE SERVE

The South Texas Food Bank distributes food to:

- Families
- Children
- Seniors
- People with disabilities and/or special needs
- Any person who is food insecure

County	Total Poverty Rate	*Children in Poverty
County	2017	2017
Dimmit	31.2%	42.6%
Jim Hogg	27.3%	40.2%
Kinney	20.1%	26.7%
Maverick	27.0%	33.3%
Starr	32.0%	40.2%
Val Verde	21.4%	30.6%
Webb	27.3%	36.2%
Zapata	30.0%	45.6%

Source: United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service *Children ages 0-17

2017-2018 BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Board

Doug Howland, *President*

Hugo Flores, **President -Elect**

Roberto Diaz, *Treasurer*

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Cristina Garcia, Historian

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Laura Narvaez

Advisory Members

Romelia Cardona

Galo Garcia





PROGRAMS: ADOPT A FAMILY

The Adopt-A-Family program allows the community to actively participate in addressing the hunger problem that exists in our community by sponsoring or adopting a family for \$120 per year.

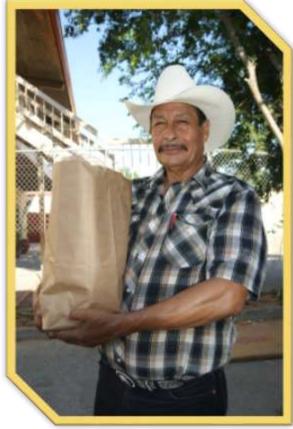
The donation helps in defraying the cost of distributing a 75 to 90 lb. box of food once a month for one year to a needy family. This box includes fresh produce and meat products.

In the FY 2017-2018, the program served an average of 599 families per month.



PROGRAMS: COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM





The Commodity Supplemental Food Program, better known as CSFP, is a federally funded program, and is administered at the federal level by the Food and Nutrition Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The objective of the program is to improve the health of elderly people at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA commodity foods.

The USDA provides food and administrative funds to States to supplement the diets of these groups. The State contracts local food banks, which then determine the eligibility of applicants, distribute the foods, and provide nutrition education. Program recipients receive a grocery bag of supplemental food every month of the year.

In the FY 2017-2018, The South Texas Food Bank assisted a total of 10,200 senior citizens on a monthly basis.

PROGRAMS: KID'S CAFÉ

Kid's Café is a Feeding America sanctioned after school feeding program for children ages 17 and under. The program offers a warm meal five days a week at various sites at no charge. Some of the food is prepared by our agency/partner, Bethany House and by the Laredo Job Corp's Culinary Dept. Some Kid's Cafes prepare their food on site.

The majority of the children who participate in the program are children who are food insecure. Food insecurity means that the families are not always sure if they will have sufficient food in their household on any given day.

Besides providing a safe environment, our Kid's Cafes also provide computers, tutoring and recreational activities. A well fed child is more likely to do better in school than one who is hungry.

During FY 2017-2018, a total of 167,980 children and 178,848 meals were served.



PROGRAMS: KID'S CAFÉ CONTINUED

The South Texas Food Bank Currently has 17 Kid's Café sites located throughout the community. The locations are as follows:

Kids Cafes	Address	City	County	Current
Sponsors				
Boy's & Girl's Club- Los Presidentes	3900 Los Presidentes	Laredo	Webb	Laredo Encino LTD
Larga Vista Community Center	5401 Larga Vista Dr.	Laredo	Webb	Gateway Rotary
LHA Meadow Acres Com. Center	1641 Elm	Laredo	Webb	City of Laredo
LHA Ana Lozano Community Center	6500 Springfield	Laredo	Webb	City of Laredo
LHA Russell Terrace Com. Center	500 Richter	Laredo	Webb	City of Laredo
LHA Guadalupe Community Center	2000 San Francisco	Laredo	Webb	City of Laredo
LHA South Laredo Com. Center	3501 S. Arkansas	Laredo	Webb	City of Laredo
LHA Carlos Richter Com. Center	1600 Circle Dr.	Laredo	Webb	City of Laredo
Rosemont at Laredo Vista	5606 St. David	Laredo	Webb	City of Lared0
Rio Bravo Community Center	1600 Orquidia	Rio Bravo	Webb	Webb County
El Cenizo Community Center	3519 Cecilia	El Cenizo	Webb	Webb County
Pan de Vida Community Center	3520 Cecilia	El Cenizo	Webb	Webb County
Bruni Community Center	3030E. 12 th St.	Bruni	Webb	Webb County
Ernesto Salinas Community Center	917 N. Main St.	Mirando City	Webb	Webb County
Seco Mines Community Center	2989 Sanchez Ave	Eagle Pass	Maverio	ck
Carrizo Springs	451 E. Nopal St.	Carrizo Spgs	Dimmit	
Boys and Girls Club- Zapata	302 W. 6 th Ave	Zapata	Zapata	*
Arturo Benavides Elementary School	l	San Ygnacio	Zapata	*

^{*}Guadalupe & Lilia Martinez Foundation & Zapata County

PROGRAMS: BACKPACK

The mission of the Backpack Program is to help alleviate child hunger by providing hungry children with nutritious and easy to prepare food at time when other resources are not available such as weekends and holidays when school campuses are closed.

The backpacks are filled with nutritious, easy to open food that does not require stove top cooking. The typical backpack contains a variety of food, but usually includes a source of protein and juices.

Zapata Boys & Girls Club, the Arturo Benavides Elementary School in San Ygnacio, Larga Vista Community Center and the Laredo Housing Authority are currently participating in this program.

The program was officially launched in the summer of 2016. In the fiscal year 2017-2018, the program had a total of 511 participants.



PROGRAMS: SNAP & SNAP EDUCATION

Through our SNAP program, the Food Bank goes throughout our service area and assists eligible citizens apply for State and Federal assistance programs such as food stamps, Medicaid, CHIP, TANF and others using the State online portal.

Another integral part of this program is nutrition and health education. The food bank nutritionist provides nutrition education that includes topics such as portion control, well-balanced diet and how to start a vegetable garden.

In the FY 2017-18, the food bank's SNAP Department processed 1,390 applications.

County	# Applications
Webb	370
Starr	639
Maverick	199
Val Verde	165
Kinney	17



PROGRAMS: TEFAP

(EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE)

Staying true to our mission of helping those in need in our community, the food bank provides a supplementary food bag to all those who come in to the food bank requesting emergency food items.

In the FY 2017-2018, a total of 1,679 emergency bags were distributed. The average number of household members serviced through this program was 3.6.

These clients are then referred to one of our over 80 member agencies located throughout our eight county service area where they can receive food assistance at least once a month.





PROGRAMS: PANTRIES

Our principle means of distributing food to families in need is through our partner food pantries and agencies. In the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, the food bank worked with 80 agencies located throughout the eight county service area.

Food for this program comes from Federal grants such as TEFAP and TANF, corporate food donations, private food and money donations and food drives. About 65% of the food we distribute passes through our agencies.



In the 2017-2018 FY, the South Texas Food Bank served an average of 27,737 families per month, comprised of 62,956 individuals, and distributed 11.2 million pounds of food throughout its eight-county service area.

PROGRAMS: PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

The South Texas Food Bank encourages its clients to live a healthier lifestyle through participation in its various programs. As such, we include fresh fruits and vegetables in our distributions. The produce we distribute is fresh and in season, such as apples, oranges, watermelons, potatoes, onions, tomatoes, lettuce, and more.

In the FY 2017-2018, The South Texas Food Bank distributed 2,676, 576 lbs. of fresh produce, in comparison to 1,866,830 lbs. in FY 2016-2017. Fresh produce made up 24% of our total food distribution in FY 2017-2018.





PROGRAMS: MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The Mobile Food Pantry is the South Texas Food Bank's newest food program. This initiative offers convenience to communities living in rural areas by making distributions more accessible.

Recipients can register and pick up their monthly food product at one distribution site. There are currently 7 distribution sites in the outskirts of Laredo.

Current Distribution Sites

Fred and Anita Community Center
Iglesia Senda De Gloria
La Presa Community Center
Santa Teresita Community Center
Rio Bravo Community Center
Hebbronville Community Center
E. J. Salinas Community Center



PROGRAMS: PAWS HUNGER

The PAWS Hunger program enables struggling families to keep their loving pets. Families of the Adopt-A-Family program and Emergency Walk-Ins receive one bag of pet food per month. In order to participate in this program, owners must provide a current rabies shot vaccination record.

In the FY 2017-2018, 38,106 lbs. of pet food were distributed to pet owners in need by the South Texas Food Bank.



DONATIONS PROGRAMS: FOOD RESCUE

Food rescue is the practice of retrieving edible food that would otherwise go to waste and distributing it to those in need. In most cases, the recovered food is perfectly edible, but not sellable.

Our Food Rescue Department is charged with procuring food from food distributors, grocery stores, restaurants, forwarding agents, custom house brokers and government sources.

The Food Bank accepts food and non-food products. Food and non-food products become available for donation for a variety of reason such as overstock situations, imported or exported product that cannot be shipped to their original destination and confiscated product being shipped with the incorrect paperwork. Donations are tax exempt.

Businesses and organizations such as H.E.B., Wal-Mart, Target, Starbucks, Sam's, Coca-Cola, and Laredo I.S.D. to name a few, donated both food and non-food products to the South Texas Food Bank.

In the FY 2017-18, 11,853,321 lbs. of food were donated to the Food Rescue Program.



DONATIONS PROGRAMS: RANCHERS FOR THE HUNGRY & HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY

South Texas ranchers are stepping up to the plate to help the food bank's mission of feeding the hungry by providing fresh, organic beef to feed the children in our Kids Cafes programs, and families in our Adopt-A-Family program through the South Texas Food Bank's award winning initiative, Ranchers for the Hungry.

In conjunction with *Hunters for the Hungry*, this donation program gives local and regional ranchers the opportunity to fight hunger by donating deer, steer and/or other livestock. The South Texas Food Bank then takes these donations to a local or regional USDA-licensed meat processor. Once processed, the meat is distributed to our clients through our various programs.

In the FY 2017-18, 4,656 lbs. of meat were donated to the Ranchers for the Hungry Program.





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VOLUNTEERS

One program that has a direct impact on the ability of the South Texas Food Bank to accomplish its mission of fighting hunger is the volunteer program.

The contribution made by our volunteers and interns is crucial in getting assistance to those who need it most.

In the FY 2017-18, over 66,700 hours were donated to the food bank by individuals and organizations.

In addition to sorting, processing and packing of donated product, volunteers assisted in the delivery and distribution of food bags, administrative and clerical duties, as well as assisting in events and fundraisers.



PROGRAM SERVICE REPORTS: 2017-2018 FY TOTALS

Program: Adopt-A-Family	
Clients on File/Served	599/Monthly Average

Program: CSFP	
Clients on File/Served	10,200/Monthly Average

Program: Kids Café (17 Sites)	
Children Served	178,848/Monthly Average

Pantries* (Includes agencies that prepare meals including soup kitchen & Kids Cafes)	
Families	332,842
Children	236,657
Adults	518,815

Program: Backpack Program	
Children Served	415/Monthly

Program: SNAP Outreach	
Applications Processed	1,390

Program: Emergency Bags (Walk-Ins)	
Applications Processed	1,679
Adults	3,051
Children	2,556

Overall Total	
Distribution (Lbs.)	11,173,071
Meals	9,310,893



For more information, please contact:

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